Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing the oxidation and bleaching action of a peroxygen compound comprising the step of mixing the peroxygen compound with a~~The use of~~ transition metal ~~complexes~~ complex having nitrogen-containing ligands, ~~as catalyst for peroxygen compounds~~, wherein the transition metal ~~complexes have~~complex has the formula (1)

$$M(L)_nX_m \qquad (1)$$

where

M is a metal atom selected from the group consisting of Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Mo, and W,

L is a ligand from the group of nitrogen-containing heterocycles,

X is chloride, bromide, nitrate, perchlorate, sulfate, ammonia, tetrafluoroborate, hexafluorophosphate or an anion of an organic acid having 1 to 22 carbon atoms,

n is a number from 2 to 4 and m is a number from 0 to 4.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein L in the formula (1) is pyridine, imidazole, picoline, imidazoline, pyrrole, pyrazole, triazole, hexamethylenimine, piperidine or lutidine.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the peroxygen compound used is organic peracids, hydrogen peroxide, perborate, ~~and~~ percarbonate, ~~and~~ or mixtures thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mixing step occurs in an aqueous ~~solutions~~ solution~~for textile washing, in aqueous cleaning solutions for hard surfaces and for the bleaching of colored soilings~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mixing step further comprises mixing a compound which eliminates peroxocarboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions ~~is used at the same time as the complex compound of the formula 1~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition comprising a transition metal complex of the formula (1) ~~as in claim 1~~

$$M(L)_nX_m \qquad (1)$$

where

M is a metal atom selected from the group consisting of Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Mo, and W,

L is a ligand from the group of nitrogen-containing heterocycles,

X is chloride, bromide, nitrate, perchlorate, sulfate, ammonia, tetrafluoroborate, hexafluorophosphate or an anion of an organic acid having 1 to 22 carbon atoms,

n is a number from 2 to 4 and m is a number from 0 to 4.

7. (Currently Amended) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, comprising 0.0025 to 1% by weight, ~~in particular 0.01% by weight to 0.1% by weight,~~ of the transition metal complex of the formula (1) ~~as in claim 1~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, further comprising ~~a transition metal complex of the formula 1 as in claim 1, and also 1 to 10% by weight, in particular 2% by weight to 6% by weight, of a~~ compound which eliminates peroxycarboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions.

9. (New) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, comprising 0.01% by weight to 0.1% by weight of the transition metal complex of formula (1).

10. (New) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, further comprising 2% by weight to 6% by weight of a compound which eliminates peroxycarboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions.